

CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for presenting audio/video information, the method comprising:

presenting the audio/video information using a first processing mechanism;

receiving, while presenting the audio/video information using the first processing mechanism, receiving a user-submitted command, the command activated by operation of a mark button on a remote control associated with the first processing mechanism;

adding, in response to the user-submitted command, adding a mark that is associated with the audio/video information, using a marking mechanism of the first processing mechanism;

transferring the audio/video information from the first processing mechanism to a second processing mechanism, the second processing mechanism being physically distinct from the first processing mechanism; [[and]]

displaying a visual indicator of the mark at the second processing mechanism, the displaying comprising:

displaying, within a thumbnail display region, a thumbnail image of a frame of the audio/video information presented using the first processing system, the frame taken from the audio/video information being displayed at a point in time that the mark was created, the thumbnail image accompanied, upon selection, by a text legend indicating time remaining on a fixed period of time, after which the thumbnail image will be removed;

displaying, in a larger region, a larger sized version of a thumbnail image selected from among thumbnail images in the thumbnail display region;

removing the thumbnail image from the thumbnail display region at conclusion of the fixed period of time; and

displaying an access point to allow access to thumbnail images removed after the fixed period of time; and

presenting the audio/video information using the second processing mechanism based on the mark added using the first processing mechanism, the presenting in response to operation of a mark button on a remote control associated with the second processing mechanism. ~~wherein at least one of said adding the mark and said presenting the information using the second processing mechanism comprises displaying a visual indicator of the mark at a display position~~

~~that is related to a time at which the mark was associated with the information, wherein the visual indicator of the mark comprises visual display properties that conveys a plurality of characteristics of the mark, wherein the plurality of characteristics of the mark is displayed, the characteristics of the mark comprising:~~

~~a time when the mark was created;~~

~~a date when the mark was created;~~

~~an indication of a processing mechanism through which the mark was created;~~

~~an indication of a physical location at which the mark was created;~~

~~an indication of a processing mechanism that is permitted to later invoke the mark; and~~

~~an expiration time associated with the mark.~~

2 - 3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first processing mechanism is contained in a first area in a building and the second processing mechanism is contained in a second area in the building.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the audio/video information comprises a media content program.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising ~~including~~ deleting the mark in response to a user-submitted selection of the visual indicator of the mark and a user-submitted command to delete the mark.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the adding the mark precludes the creation of another mark if that other mark occurs at the same time, or within a very small time interval as the first-mentioned mark.

10 - 14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~claim 44~~, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ part of the audio/video information is a video image taken from the audio/video information which is associated with the mark.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the displaying the visual indicator ~~indication~~ of the mark comprises presenting the visual

indicator of the mark at a display position along a timeline, where the display position conveys a juncture at which the mark occurs within the audio/video information.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein the displaying involves presenting multiple visual indicators of multiple respective marks at multiple respective display positions along the timeline, where the multiple positions convey respective junctures at which the multiple marks occur within the audio/video information.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 17, further comprising ~~including~~ navigating among the multiple visual indicators to select any one of the multiple visual indicators.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the navigating comprises:

receiving an indication of a first user-submitted navigation command;

in response to the first user-submitted navigation command, selecting a temporally succeeding visual indicator with respect to a currently selected visual indicator;

receiving an indication of a second user-submitted navigation command; and

in response to the second user-submitted navigation command, selecting a temporally prior visual indicator with respect to the currently selected visual indicator.

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 16, further comprising:
receiving an indication of a user-submitted presentation command; and
in [[In]] response to the user-submitted presentation command, invoking a
currently selected visual indicator.

21-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the
presenting is invoked by the activation of an input selection item associated with the
audio/video information containing the mark, wherein the input selection item appears in
a display that corresponds to at least one of:

- a mark panel display;
- a thumbnail display;
- a menu display;
- a program guide display; and
- a program-specific information display corresponding to the audio/video
information.

26. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium, defined on a computer
memory storage device, including machine readable instructions for implementing the
adding and the presenting of claim 1.

27. (Currently Amended) A method for presenting audio/video information, comprising:

receiving instructions generated in response to [[the]] activation of a marking mechanism during [[the]] display of a first program, the activation responsive to operation of a mark button on a remote control;

displaying a mark panel display in response to the instructions, the mark panel display comprising a thumbnail image of a frame of the first program, the frame taken from the first program at a point in time that the mark was created by operation of the mark button on the remote control;

adding second and subsequent thumbnail images of frames of second and subsequent programs to the mark panel display, the second and subsequent thumbnail images each resembling a respective picture being displayed by the second and subsequent programs at a point in time that second and subsequent marks are created by second and subsequent operations of the mark button on the remote control;

displaying, in a larger region, a larger sized version of a thumbnail image selected from among thumbnail images in the mark panel display;

removing the thumbnail images after a fixed period of time;

displaying an access point to allow access to thumbnail images removed after the fixed period of time; and

wherein the mark panel display comprises:

a selectable command to create a mark associated with the first program,

wherein the mark comprises a visual indicator of the mark at a display position

that is related to a time at which the mark is associated with information, wherein

~~the visual indicator of the mark comprises visual display properties that conveys a plurality of characteristics of the mark, wherein the plurality of characteristics of the mark are displayed, the characteristics of the mark consisting of:~~

~~a time when the mark was created;~~

~~a date when the mark was created;~~

~~an indication of a processing mechanism through which the mark was created;~~

~~an indication of a physical location at which the mark was created;~~

~~an indication of a processing mechanism that is permitted to later invoke the mark; and~~

~~an expiration time associated with the mark; and~~

~~a representation of a second program, wherein:~~

~~the second program is different from the first program; and~~

~~the second program has an associated mark;~~

~~receiving a user's input via the mark panel display; and~~

~~in response to the user's input:~~

~~in an event that the user's input corresponds to the selectable command to create a mark associated with the first program, creating a new mark in the first program; and~~

~~invoking, by operation of the mark button on the remote control and selection of a displayed thumbnail image, in an event that the user's input corresponds to the representation of the second a particular program, invoking the mark associated with the second program associated with the selected~~

displayed thumbnail image, to display the particular program from a point indicated by the displayed thumbnail image.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium including machine readable instructions for implementing the method of claim 27.

30. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a first processing mechanism, the first processing mechanism comprising:

a first memory;

a first processor;

presentation logic stored in the first memory and executed by the first processor to present audio/video information;

marking logic, stored in the first memory and executed by the first processor to create a mark associated with audio/video information currently being presented, wherein the mark [[is]]being embedded in the audio/video information and ~~comprises~~ comprising a visual indicator of the mark at a display position that is related to a time at which the mark is associated with the audio/video information, the marking logic operating in response to user selection of a mark button on a remote control associated with the first processing mechanism

~~wherein the visual indicator of the mark comprises visual display properties that conveys a plurality of characteristics of the mark, wherein the plurality of characteristics of the mark is displayed, the characteristics of the mark comprising:~~

~~a time when the mark was created;~~

~~a date when the mark was created;~~

~~an indication of a processing mechanism through which the mark was created;~~

~~an indication of a physical location at which the mark was created;~~

~~an indication of a processing mechanism that is permitted to later invoke the mark; and~~

~~an expiration time associated with the mark; and~~

a second processing mechanism, physically distinct from the first processing mechanism, the second processing mechanism comprising:

a second memory;

a second processor;

communication logic stored in the second memory and executed by the second processor to receive the audio/video information with the embedded mark;

displaying logic, stored in the second memory, to display a mark panel display, the mark panel display comprising a thumbnail image of a frame of a first program, the frame taken from the first program being displayed at a point in time that the mark was created by operation of the mark button on the remote control;

displaying logic, stored in the second memory, to display in a larger region, a larger sized version of a thumbnail image selected from among thumbnail images in the mark panel display;

removing logic, stored in the second memory, to remove the thumbnail image after a fixed period of time;

access point logic, stored in the second memory, to allow access to thumbnail images removed after the fixed period of time at which the thumbnail images are removed from the mark panel display; and

presentation logic stored in the second memory and executed by the second processor to present the audio/video information based on the mark created by the marking logic of the first processing mechanism, the presenting logic operating in response to operation of a mark button on a remote control associated with the second processing mechanism.

31 - 33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the mark is stored as a component of the audio/video information.

35 - 42. (Canceled)